

Application No.: 09/923,032
Amendment Dated July 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 30, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 16-28 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

1. (Currently amended) A liquid absorbent device, comprising:

a liquid impermeable outer cover having a central longitudinal axis, and including a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge and a second side edge, a first side section between the first side edge and the central longitudinal axis, and a second side section between the second side edge and the central longitudinal axis,

a first frangible line in the first side section of the outer cover, and a second frangible line in the second side section of the outer cover,

a liquid permeable liner and an absorbent medium joined with the outer cover to form a liquid absorbent device, at least the liquid absorbent medium being located between the first frangible line and the second frangible line,

the liquid absorbent device being folded so the outer cover forms the exterior of the folded liquid absorbent device such that, upon removal of portions of the outer cover outboard the frangible lines and unfolding the liquid absorbent device and use of the liquid absorbent device, a remaining portion of the outer cover is adapted to form forms a liquid impermeable layer of the liquid absorbent device that includes the liquid permeable liner and the absorbent medium.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising a first joining element in the first side section, and a second joining element in the second side section.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first joining element and the second joining element join respective portions of the folded outer cover together.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein each frangible line is in generally overlapping alignment with itself.

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5. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the first frangible line is between the first joining element and the central longitudinal axis, and the second frangible line is between the second joining element and the central longitudinal axis.

6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 further comprising a release strip for the liquid absorbent device wherein the release strip is located on an exterior of the outer cover.

7. (Original) The device of claim 5 further comprising a vaginal insertion device placed with the liquid absorbent device.

8. (Currently amended) A feminine sanitary protection device, comprising:
a liquid impermeable outer cover having a central longitudinal axis, and including a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge and a second side edge, a first side section between the first side edge and the central longitudinal axis, and a second side section between the second side edge and the central longitudinal axis,

means in the first side section and in the second side section for removing at least a portion of the first side section and at least a portion of the second side section from the outer cover, and

a liquid permeable liner and an absorbent medium joined with the outer cover to form a liquid absorbent device,

the liquid absorbent device being folded so the outer cover forms the exterior of the folded liquid absorbent device such that, upon removal of at least a portion of the first side section and at least a portion of the second side section from the outer cover and unfolding the liquid absorbent device and use of the liquid absorbent device, a remaining portion of the outer cover ~~is adapted to form~~ forms a liquid impermeable layer of the liquid absorbent device that includes the liquid permeable liner and the absorbent medium.

9. (Original) The device of claim 8 further comprising means in the first side section and in the second side section for joining respective portions of the folded outer cover together.

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10. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the liquid absorbent device with its outer cover is tri-folded.

11. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the removing means is between the joining means.

12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 8 further comprising a release strip for the liquid absorbent device wherein the release strip is located on an exterior of the outer cover.

13. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the removing means includes a first frangible line in the first side section, and a second frangible line in the second side section.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13 wherein each the frangible line includes perforations in the outer cover.

15. (Original) The device of claim 8 further comprising a vaginal insertion device placed with the liquid absorbent device.

16. (New) A liquid absorbent device for use with an undergarment, comprising:
a liquid impermeable outer cover having a central longitudinal axis, and including a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge and a second side edge, a first side section between the first side edge and the central longitudinal axis, and a second side section between the second the side edge and the central longitudinal axis,

a first frangible line in the first side section of the outer cover, and a second frangible line in the second side section of the outer cover,

a liquid permeable liner and an absorbent medium joined with the outer cover to form a liquid absorbent device, at least the liquid absorbent medium being located between the first frangible line and the second frangible line,

the liquid absorbent device being folded so the outer cover forms the exterior of the folded liquid absorbent device such that, upon removal of portions of the outer cover outboard the frangible lines and unfolding the liquid absorbent device and placement adjacent the undergarment

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for use of the liquid absorbent device, a remaining portion of the outer cover is adhered to the liquid absorbent device and forms a liquid impermeable layer of the liquid absorbent device that includes the liquid permeable liner and the absorbent medium.

17. (New) The device of claim 16 further comprising a first joining element in the first side section, and a second joining element in the second side section wherein the first joining element and the second joining element join respective portions of the folded outer cover together.

18. (New) The device of claim 16 wherein each frangible line is in generally overlapping alignment with itself.

19. (New) The device of claim 16 further comprising a first joining element in the first side section, and a second joining element in the second side section wherein the first frangible line is between the first joining element and the central longitudinal axis, and the second frangible line is between the second joining element and the central longitudinal axis.

20. (New) The device of claim 16, further comprising a release strip for the liquid absorbent device wherein the release strip is located on an exterior of the outer cover.